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craft, widow of the late Henry R. Schoolcraft, of Washington, a number of books in the Indian languages of America.

Mr. Deane communicated at the same time an interesting letter from Mrs. Schoolcraft, addressed to Mr. Wiggin, which, by the kindness of the latter, had been placed in his hands; and in which, in a touching manner, she speaks of the literary labors of her husband, of his prostration for many years by disease, during which he was dependent on his wife as nurse and amanuensis. It is understood that the six folio volumes of Mr. Schoolcraft on the History, &c., of the Indian Tribes of the United States, were written wholly by Mrs. Schoolcraft at his dictation.

The thanks of the Society were returned for these several gifts.

SPECIAL MEETING.

A social meeting was held on Thursday evening, March 23d, at the house of Mr. Robert M. Mason, No. 1 Walnut Street, corner of Beacon Street, at 7½ o'clock; the President in the chair.

The President communicated a copy of a photographic likeness of the late Winthrop Sargent, a Corresponding Member of the Society, presented by his sister, Mrs. Henry Duncan; together with the following Paper:—

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA, December 12, 1870.

[*Extract from the Minutes.*]

Mr. JORDAN remarked that the Society had lately lost by death one of its valued members, Winthrop Sargent, who died in Paris on the 18th of May last.

Mr. Sargent's loss has been the subject of more than usual notice by the press of the United States and the different bodies with which he was connected. The Bar of Philadelphia, his native city, from which he had long been separated, had publicly expressed the sense of affectionate regret for a member who had illustrated by his literary productions the culture and refinement of the profession in which he had been educated. The Massachusetts Historical Society had placed upon their record their sense of his great services to American History. He thought it fitting that this Society, under whose auspices Mr. Sargent had edited some of his most valuable works, should make an extended acknowledgment of the great merit of their late member.

These two works — "The History of An Expedition against Fort Du Quesne, in 1775," &c., from original manuscripts in the British Museum, with an original "Introductory Memoir"; and a "Journal of the General Meeting of the Cincinnati in 1784," from the original manuscript of his grandfather, Major Winthrop Sargent — were produced at an age when most men only give promise of future excellence; and they have become standard works of American History. They are among the most creditable of the productions which our Society has given rise to. His "Life and Career of Major John André," a more elaborate work, is one of the most graceful products of his pen, and displays Mr. Sargent's capacity for thorough research and discriminating use of materials, which alone can give historical value to works of biography.

He edited also for a sister society in Massachusetts, from which State his ancestry was derived, and in whose annals the family name constantly appears, "The Letters of John Andrews, Esq., of Boston, from 1772 to 1776." He published in a limited edition, exquisitely printed, a collection of the Loyalist Ballads of the Revolution; a work the appreciation of which by book-fanciers is shown in the extraordinary price a copy, when rarely sold, produces. He published also the "Loyal Verses of Joseph Stansberry and Dr. Jonathan Odell, relating to the American Revolution."

Mr. Sargent was a frequent contributor to the "North American Review." His articles were warmly commended for their vivacity and brilliancy. In the field of literary criticism his erudition and varied scholarship made him a valuable contributor. He was no mean poet; but verse was a relaxation, rather than a pursuit. A few fugitive pieces, published anonymously and known only to his friends, attest the gracefulness of his diction in this branch of literature. But it was in historical research that he found the work most fitting for the bent of his mind. He revered the past and loved it, — he was fond of the actors; he loved to reproduce them in their ordinary garbs, to present them in letters to show their modes of thought and daily actions. He stripped characters of their tinsel, and made them walk like common men; but he did not belittle them. Himself of Revolutionary descent, he could do justice to the motives and feelings which made a man a Tory. He was eminently a citizen of the world in his knowledge of men and manners, and his various and discursive reading made him the familiar of men of different periods as well as of different countries. A mind so versatile and varied in its many sides, united to studious habits and a genuine fondness of literature, would almost of necessity have resulted in some work which would have taken its place among the classics of American Literature. But he was called away, leaving much accomplished, but with the promise of greater usefulness unfulfilled.

It is only just that this Society should have upon its records some tribute to his memory.

After some further remarks by other members, it was, on motion of Mr. Edward Penington, ordered that, instead of adopting resolutions, the remarks of the speaker should be entered on the minutes as ex-

pressing the sense of the Society in relation to the death of Mr. Sargent, and that copies should be sent to his bereaved sister.

Certified from the minutes.

Attest, — JAMES ROSS SNOWDEN,
Corresponding Secretary
Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

MADAM, — At a meeting of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, held at their hall, on the 12th of December, 1870, the above proceedings occurred, which by order I have the honor to transmit to you.

Very respectfully,

EDWARD PENINGTON, Jr.

MRS. HENRY P. DUNCAN.

Mr. FROTHINGHAM read a very interesting and important paper, a copy from Governor Hutchinson's own manuscript, being a conversation, on the crisis in America, between himself, King George III., and Lord Dartmouth, which took place immediately on Hutchinson's arrival in England in 1774, after he had been superseded by General Gage. He sailed from Boston on the first of June of that year. The original manuscript of this conversation is referred to in the editorial preface (placed in some of the copies) of the third volume of Hutchinson's "History of Massachusetts," published in London in 1828, — forty-eight years after the death of the author. Mr. Frothingham said that the copy of the conversation from which he read was made by him from another transcript, in the possession of Mr. Bancroft; and that he had been enjoined against allowing it to be printed.

Dr. ELLIS read a paper on an alleged incident in New England history, taking for his text the well-known lines in Hudibras: —

"Our brethren of New England use
Choice malefactors to excuse,
And hang the guiltless in their stead,
Of whom the churches had less need," &c.

He gave the different versions of the story, as related by Morton of Merry Mount, by Winslow, and by Hubbard, quoting also a tradition picked up by a later traveller; and showed that, while there was no foundation for the story as told by the poet, some real incidents may have given rise to it. An occurrence in Weston's colony of vagabonds, at Wessagussett (Weymouth), is supposed to have furnished the occasion for the satire.

Mr. W. G. BROOKS read extracts from a Diary of Mr. Nathaniel Cutting, in which incidents, persons, and places, familiar to old residents of Boston eighty years ago, are mentioned; and which, with the notice of Mr. Cutting furnished by Mr. Brooks, are here given:—

Mr. NATHANIEL CUTTING, the writer of this Journal, was a native of Brookline, Mass., and for many years was a shipmaster in the employ of Mr. Nathaniel Tracy, of Newburyport. In 1789 he was a resident of Havre, in France, and kept a journal of occurrences in that city and Paris during the revolution. In 1790 and again in 1791 he visited St. Domingo on business, and was there in the latter year when the island was in a state of revolt. His journal at that time is very interesting. In 1792 he returned to this country, and made the visits to Boston. In 1793 he was appointed by Washington, on recommendation of Mr. Jefferson with whom he was very intimate, Secretary to Colonel Humphreys, on his mission to the Dey of Algiers to demand indemnity for depredations on our commerce and the release of American citizens. This mission, as is well known, was a total failure; and all that was obtained was a decided refusal of the Dey of Algiers to allow them a passport. Their journey toward Algiers through Spain is very graphically described by Mr. Cutting.

Mr. Cutting finally returned to his native country, and was many years an assistant in the War Department, and died at Washington about 1822.

Extracts from a Journal of a Gentleman visiting Boston in 1792.

Sept. 3. Left Providence in the public stage. Between two and three o'clock we dined at Gay's tavern in Dedham. Reached Boston before six. As we approached Boston, some Maryland gentlemen of our party expressed great pleasure at the beautifully variegated appearance of the country, the fertility of the soil in those places where it appeared well cultivated, the neatness of the buildings, and the industry of the inhabitants. The stage, after driving into State Street to deliver the mail, set us down at the house of Mrs. Eaton. Walked up to the "Bunch of Grapes" in the evening.

Sept. 4. Took a stroll on Beacon Hill, from the summit whereof one may behold the most variegated and luxuriant scenery that nature and art combined present through her extensive works. Our friends did not fail to express their admiration of the delightful prospect, and to declare that neither in Europe nor in any other part of America did they ever enjoy so charming a view. We found fault with the ridiculous Obelisk, if such the *thing* may be called, which is placed on the highest point of the hill by way of ornament: it puts one in mind of

a farthing candle placed in a large candlestick upon the altar of some Roman Catholic chapel. After descending the hill, we took a view of the dwelling-house of Mr. John Joy lately erected a little to the westward of Mr. Hancock's house: the front is among the neatest and most elegant I have ever seen; it is two stories high, overcast, and painted a kind of peach-bloom colour, and adorned with semi-columns, fluted, of the Corinthian order, the whole height of the edifice. We strolled down the Mall, and then repaired to the house of Mr. S. Breck. We afterward walked round new Boston, and viewed a number of handsome dwelling-houses lately erected, particularly one not finished, belonging to Mr. Joseph Cooledge of this town. We examined the disposition and style of the apartments. Our party then went upon 'Change, and were introduced to the Hon. Thomas Russell and many gentlemen of my former circle of acquaintance. After tea, under the auspices of Mr. Harry Hill, visited the "Gentlemen's Club," a social society that meet once a week at the house of some one of its members, who entertain the company in rotation; also called at the house of H. G. Otis, Esq.

Sept. 5. A large carriage and four horses took our travelling party out in the country. We set out immediately, and passed over the new Charles River Bridge through the Town of Medford, over the wiers and down through Menotomy to the house of Mr. Cragie in Cambridge, where we were cordially received and hospitably entertained by the modest and opulent proprietor. We walked up to his summer house, a pretty piece of ornamental architecture situated on an eminence, once a reservoir of ice, built by Nathaniel Tracy, Esq., when he was proprietor of and resided at this superb and delightful seat. Our Maryland gentlemen were perfectly enchanted with it. I think one may safely assert that, after Beacon Hill in Boston, this spot presents the most beautiful, extensive, and variegated landscape in the world. From Mr. Cragie's we went to the colleges, to take a view of the library, which is said to be the best in America, both with respect to the number of books and the selection. The books are arranged with great propriety and elegance. There are several paintings and engravings at the end of the room that attract one's attention, particularly a portrait of the Cardinal Bentivolio, executed by Smybert, from the original of Raphael. It is certainly an excellent painting, and does much honor to the copyist. We took a cursory view of the cabinet of curiosities; the collection is small and boasts but few rarities. We next visited the Corporation Room, which is adorned with several handsome paintings and engravings. In this room stands the elegant Orrery made by Mr. Joseph Pope, a watch-maker of Boston, which for mechanism and excellence of workmanship is said to equal any thing of the kind in the world. After looking into the Commons or Eating Room, and into the chapel, which occupy the whole first floor of the building, we embarked in our carriages, and returned to Boston, *via* Roxbury. The gentlemen from Maryland expressed themselves much pleased with the excursion.

Thursday, Sept. 6. We accompanied the Maryland gentlemen to view the celebrated card manufactory in this town. All the machinery

necessary to form the wooden part or back of the card is moved by water, the wire is cut and the leather perforated by machinery. The instrument is very complicated, but may be turned and used by a child seven years old. It was originally invented by Mr. Pope, the watch-maker. Near one thousand persons are employed in this manufactory, of which three-quarters are children. We next went to view the duck, *alias* sail cloth, manufactory. We did not see the blooming girls who are generally employed in spinning, they being now under the operation of inoculation for the small-pox. The duck appears to be of a much better texture than the corresponding numbers of English duck. While there Mr. Joseph Barrell came in, and conducted us to his house. We were much gratified with a view of his garden. He regaled us also with fruits gathered immediately from the trees. Same day dined with Mr. William Payne, where I met numbers of my acquaintance.

Friday, Sept. 7. My Maryland friends took their departure. They leave well satisfied with their hospitable and polite reception here, and with an elevated idea of the beauty and value of this delightful country. I wish sincerely that the intercourse between the inhabitants of the southern and northern parts of the United States was more familiar and cordial. It might be the means of cementing that Union which is the grand basis of our national grandeur and happiness. Strolled in the Mall with Mr. N. Barrett, and dined with Mr. Daniel Sargent. Afterwards called on Mr. Thomas H. Perkins, who subsequently accompanied me on a visit to his worthy mother. There met Mrs. Lincoln, widow of a son of General Lincoln.

Sept. 8. Walked to the pier with Mr. T. Dennie, and called at the store of Mr. Mungo Mackey, who despatches the vessel in which Mr. S. A. Otis takes passage for Cape Francois. Sent a letter by him to Mr. S. G. Perkins. Dined with Mr. John Codman by appointment; met Mr. N. Barrett and wife there, and a number of other gentlemen.

Sept. 10. Met Col. Trumbull, the painter, in State Street, and Christopher Gore, Esq., and also encountered Doct. Jarvis. Dined with Dr. Cragie; met there Mr. Gerry, one of the members of Congress of this State, and several other gentlemen. The entertainment was elegant and variegated, and genuine unceremonious hospitality gave it an additional zest.

Sept. 11. Rev. Mr. Murray, of Gloucester, called upon me, and also Mr. Andrew Hall of Medford. Mr. Murray dined with me, and we had a social repast. Waited upon Mr. T. H. Perkins; he read me a letter from his brother Samuel at the Cape, which paints in very lively colours the very distress state of the French Colony of St. Domingo; their situation is very deplorable. In the evening went to Powell's "Evening Brush," where we were amused for an hour or two with burlesque imitations, droll anecdotes, and both characteristic and sentimental songs. The whole interlarded and accompanied by tolerably good musick.

Sept. 10, Sunday. Visited Medford, and called at Mr. Andrew Hall's, and attended meeting to hear Rev. Dr. Osgood.

Sept. 17. In a company of gentlemen to-day a high disputation took place respecting the Order of the Cincinnati, both as to the propriety of the establishment as it actually is, and to the pretension that the descendants of the present members may form, should the order become hereditary. One gentleman, a decided republican in principle, thought the order ought to be totally abolished, or rather ought never to have existed, observing that any hereditary distinction can never be of service, and may become prejudicial to a Commonwealth which is founded on the basis of original equality. Major Samuel Shaw, on the other side, stood forth as the champion of the order, stating "that as no power of any species was attached to the order it never could become dangerous in society, but might be productive of great benefits, because when a young man looked at the diploma which conferred the distinction, or at the Golden Eagle which was worn by his ancestor who fought thro all difficulties to obtain the freedom and independence of his country, he would naturally be stimulated to the most laudable and patriotic exertions. If he could for a moment prove deaf to the calls of his country when her liberties were in danger, a single glance at these insignia would arouse all that is noble and virtuous in the character of man; he would rush to the post of danger, and there acquire fresh laurels, or die in defence of those which the present race have attained. Was it possible for a member of the Cincinnati to lose sight of the duty he owes his country, and attempt to infringe her liberties, the medal which he wears would swing reproaches at him, and his mind would become a — worse than ever poets feigned."

Sept. 18. Called at the printing office of Mr. B. Russell. At evening went to the theatre, as a rough boarded hovel in Board Alley is called, in order to kill an hour or two in gazing at rope-dancing and pantomimics; was particularly invited thereto by an article in the play-bill of the day, which announced a piece to be delivered by a "Lady of Cape Ann;" the composition may be clever, but the lady who spoke it assassinated both the language and sense.

Sept. 19. We took a walk out to Cambridge, and breakfasted with Mr. Cragie, who received and entertained us as he does all the world with genuine good humour and hospitality. On our return struck off from the road, and took a view of the beautiful and commodious edifice which Mr. Joseph Barrell of this town is erecting for his country residence upon an eminence near Charles River. As it will be the largest, so I think it will be infinitely the most elegant dwelling-house ever yet built in New England. It commands the most delightful views imaginable. Mr. B. has here 200 acres of land nearly; fifty of which, I understand, he intends to appropriate for gardens.

22. Dined with Mr. Sam'l Shaw, T. H. Perkins, & others. We rose from table time enough to visit a ship which Mr. Shaw is dispatching for India on his own account. Mr. Shaw & myself afterwards took a walk in the Mall, and then returned home.

25th. Went with Mr. J. Cooledge, Jr., to visit the new mansion-house which is erected by his father. In it elegance & convenience strive for preference, but its site is not pleasant or advantageous. Called to visit

Col. Trumbull, also Mr. Breck. He acquaints me that he shall depart with his family for Philadelphia on Thursday next. The removal of such useful citizens of such handsome property from this town must be detrimental to the interests of the community. It is impolitic in the assessor, or rather the inhabitants of the town, to tax such men 1200 dolls. per annum, or nearly that, when in other States, nay, in other towns in the same State, the same man with the identical property he now possesses would not be taxed a twentieth part of the sum.

26th. Repaired to the Exhibition Room, where a set of strollers gave what they called, "A Moral Lecture upon Douglass," which was no other than a humble attempt at representing the whole of the tragedy of "Douglass." This was succeeded by what the advertisement styled a Comic Lecture, in two parts, which in fact was the opera called the "Poor Soldier."

27. Attended a concert at Concert Hall. Great number of gentlemen and ladies present. The Frenchman who was manager of the concert sang two French songs, & afterwards gave several pieces on the harmonica, *alias* glassicord: the novelty of this mode of modulating sound attracted general attention.

28th. Went upon 'Change, & found a vessel had arrived from Liverpool bringing accounts of violent commotions having recently taken place in Paris, in which the king & royal family's lives were in great danger, and it was not certainly known that they were not massacred.

Met this day Mr. Joseph May & Mr. Joseph Cordis of Charlestown Sunday, Sept. 30, 1792. Attended church at Brattle Street; heard Parson Thatcher hold forth. Afterwards strolled in the Mall, & called at the house of H. G. Otis.

Oct. 1. Dined with Mr. John Codman. The topic of conversation in all circles here now is the deplorable condition to which France is reduced by her intestine divisions.

Oct. 2. Called at Brooks' Insurance Office, & then dined with T. H. Perkins. Evening, went to Exhibition Room, Board Alley, where I found many gentlemen of my acquaintance assembled at a concert.

3d. Dined with Mr. Cragie at his country seat. Enjoyed an elegant repast in company with several acquaintances & two or three French gentlemen.

I learn that a ship arrived here this afternoon, 35 days from Bristol. Intelligence by her confirms the accounts we have had of the commotions at Paris, but adds that the National Assembly have proscribed M. de la Fayette & offered a reward for his head! This is doubtless at the instigations of the Jacobins.

Gen. Cobb informs me a vessel has arrived at Rhode Island from Bordeaux, which brings accounts that M. de la Fayette is brought prisoner to Paris by 600 of his own soldiers.

Came up to Brooks', where much is said every day about the affairs of France. Capt. Joseph Tilden showed me a letter from his correspondent at Bordeaux.

Oct. 13. A most elegant Aurora Borealis made its appearance this evening, shooting up in streams from the horizon quite to the zenith. It was really an object of admiration.

Sunday, 14. Went to hear Rev. Mr. John Murray to-day. He exhibited great ingenuity in handling his subject, & developed more of the tenets held by his sect, who are called Universal Redemptionists, than I ever before heard him do in public or private.

Oct. 17. Dined with Joseph Barrell, Esq., by appointment. A large company of gentlemen present, among whom were Judge Lowell, Judge Iredell, Judge Sullivan. An elegant dinner & delicious high flavored wines.

Oct. 23, 1792. At 11 o'clock, A.M., repaired to the Meeting House in Brattle Street, where I found a respectable audience assembled to hear a discourse in commemoration of the first Discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. The Rev. Mr. Belknap, one of the members of the Historical Society, was the orator. He gave a very concise & comprehensive narrative of the most material circumstances which led to, attended, or were consequent on the Discovery of America. The subject was so interesting and so extremely well handled that the audience paid the most profound attention, and gave evident signs of being exceedingly well entertained. For my own part, I never heard any thing of the kind that gave me so much pleasure. This is designed as a beginning to celebrate the centenary of the Discovery of America. It is just 300 years since that important event took place. The ceremony was conducted much in the style of a common lecture. The celebration commenced with an anthem. Mr. Thatcher made an excellent prayer, part of a psalm was then sung, and then Mr. Belknap delivered his discourse, which was succeeded by a prayer from Mr. Eliot. Mr. Thatcher then read an Ode composed for the occasion by Mr. Belknap, which was sung by the choir; this finished the ceremony. The celebration was under the auspices of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

I went on 'Change, and was invited to join several parties of my acquaintance who dine together in celebration of this anniversary.

Oct. 25. Dined at home with a large party assembled at the invitation of Major Shaw.

Went to the assembly at Concert Hall at 7 o'clock. Found near fifty ladies assembled, most of them beautiful and elegantly dressed. I do not think there is another city in the world where one would meet the same number of charming women assembled on any occasion as those who attend the dancing assemblies at Concert Hall.

M. Fouraignan, a planter of Martinique, who has recently come to board with us, informs me that new commotions are likely to break out in Martinique. Some of the patriotic troops, as they are called, lately from France, have landed at St. Pierres, and at the instigation of many of the inhabitants of that city, and prompted by their own intemperate enthusiasm in favor of liberty and equality, are determined to remodel the government in that island, and to reduce the planters to the democratic system in its wildest extent, pretending that at present that class are opposed to the revolution in France, and refuse to obey the decrees of the National Assembly.

Oct. 31. A rumor to-day that accounts have arrived on the conti-

nent, *via* Gaudaloupe, that the Austrian army are in possession of Paris, and that they have reinstated the king, &c.

Nov. 2. Sunday. Strolled in the Mall to enjoy the delightful elasticity of the air. Met several gentlemen of my acquaintance there. Dined with T. H. Perkins, and attended church with him in the afternoon, and heard Mr. Belknap deliver an old-fashioned sermon that I doubt not was Orthodox to a tittle.

Nov. 3. This is the day of election here for Federal Representatives. The principal contest seemed to be between Fisher Ames, Esq., an accomplished lawyer, who is a member of the present Congress, who has given sufficient proofs of his being a staunch Federalist, and Benjamin Austin, Jr., Esq., a Democratic *enragée*, who has long been known as an instigator and patron of faction in this town. Every staunch friend to the Federal Government will rejoice to find that Mr. Ames carried it by a majority of over forty votes.

Went to dine with an old acquaintance and worthy man, Mr. Joseph May, agreeably to appointment. Met T. H. Perkins there.

Nov. 6. Rumor from France, *via* Portland, that another tumult has taken place in Paris, where 11,000 persons have been massacred at the instigation of the Jacobin faction.

We went to Aspinwall's Hospital to visit the intended bride of Mr. Cragie, Miss Shaw, who is now under the operation of the small-pox by inoculation.

Called at Mr. William Foster's, and took tea with the family.

Nov. 14. Dined with the Marine Society by invitation of Mr. Thomas Dennie, at the Bunch of Grapes tavern; we had good cheer and were merry. Thanksgiving Day, as this is called in consequence of the Governor's proclamation, causes a deal of fuss among the good people of this Commonwealth. What between the ostensible compliments they pay to God in the different edifices dedicated to him, the preparation of the good things of this life, and the amusement of eating themselves into an indigestion, or hampering themselves out of breath, they are more occupied on this day than on any other in the year.

Nov. 30. Dined by appointment with my cousin, Mr. P. C. Brooks, who is recently married to a daughter of the Hon. Nath'l Gorham, Esq., of Charlestown, in this vicinity.

Dec. 21. This forenoon attended a town meeting at Faneuil Hall, the principal occasion of which was to discuss the question of a remonstrance to the General Court respecting the statute which prohibits theatrical entertainments in this Commonwealth. Joseph Blake, Jun., Esq., made the only systematic speech which was pronounced on the occasion. For the question had been so thoroughly discussed last year in the same place that no debate took place. With the utmost good order and regularity a committee was chosen to bring in a form of a remonstrance to the General Court. On the show of hands, there did not appear but one dissident, who was a leather dresser, in this town, I think by the name of Adams. A French gentleman who was present professed his astonishment at the perfect order that existed in this popular assembly.

Dec. 24. Mr. Ben. Russell informed me he had recently a letter from Benj. Hitchborne, Esq., of this town, dated in Dublin, which informs him that the King of Prussia has expressed his intention of seceding from the Austrian party and forming some new arrangement with the new Republic of France, and that his forces had actually raised the siege of Lisle.

Jan. 1, 1793. Took my departure for New York. On my way met my friends, L. V. Boland and James Lloyd, bound to Boston.

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1871.

The Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, the 13th of April, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; the President, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The records of the preceding Monthly Meeting and of the Special Meeting were read.

The Librarian read his monthly list of donors to the Library.

The Cabinet-keeper reported the gift of the portrait of the late James F. Baldwin, painted by George P. A. Healey, — from Mrs. Baldwin.

The Corresponding Secretary read a letter from our Corresponding Member, Thomas B. Akins, Esq., of Halifax, N. S., advising that he had sent to the Society's Library five volumes of the "Journal and Proceedings of the House of Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia," and of "Her Majesty's Legislative Council" of that Province.

The President noticed gifts to the Library from our associates; viz., "The Life of Count Rumford," from the author, the Rev. George E. Ellis; "The Proceedings of the Celebration at Plymouth, 21st December, 1870," from the compiler, the Hon. William T. Davis, who also presented a volume of old tracts; and "A Topographical and Historical Description of Boston," from the author, Dr. Shurtleff.

Suitable acknowledgments were ordered for these several gifts.

The President called attention to a new volume of Proceedings, placed upon the table this morning, embracing extracts from the doings of the Society, from April, 1869, to December, 1870, inclusive. Whereupon it was —

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to the Recording Secretary, and his assistants of the Publishing Com